

Power of Attorney or Correspondence Address Change

- X Power of attorney and/or correspondence address was changed during prosecution of the prior application. The power of attorney is to A Thomas S. Safford. The new correspondence address is indicated above, namely, c/o FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP, 745 Fifth Avenue, NY, NY 10151, tel. 212-588-0800, fax 212-588-0500. KINDLY ADDRESS ALL TELEPHONIC COMMUNICATIONS TO BOTH THE UNDERSIGNED (THOMAS J. KOWALSKI) AND MR. SAFFORD.
- X Incorporation by Reference (for continuation or divisional application)

The entire disclosure of the prior applications, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.

- X A Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement is below, please amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, under "Related Application" and before "This application claims priority ..." please insert: --This application is a divisional of ALLOWED U.S. application Serial No. 09/001,486, filed December 31, 1997.--

Page 12, line 21, please replace "prior art", by --invention (as broadly conceived by the applicants)--.

Page 12, line 23, after "invention", please insert: --(as broadly conceived by the applicants)--.

Page 13, line 5, please delete "of the prior art".

Page 16, lines 23 and 24, please replace "Example 1 hereinbelow refers to the prior art, and Examples 2 and 3" by --The Examples below--.

Page 17, line 1, please delete "(prior art)".

submitted w/ AMDT 3/16/2004

PATENT
120301-2382.A

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly amend the specification, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

Page 1, under "Related Application" please rewrite the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional of ~~ALLOWED~~ U.S. application Serial No. 09/001,486, filed December 31, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,217,749. This application claims priority to French Application No. 96 16290, filed December 31, 1996, which is incorporated herein by reference.